



FEMA



Prepared by
Cindy Elsenheimer

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Friday, March 29, 2019

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today

- Slight risk of severe thunderstorms across **OK**. Primary threat is for large hail and some damaging wind gusts. Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding is possible across **NE OK**.
- Critical fire weather conditions across much of **NM**. Elevated fire weather conditions across **W TX** and **TX Panhandle**.

Saturday

- Isolated strong to severe thunderstorms are possible across **NE LA**. Damaging winds are the primary hazard.

Sunday - Tuesday

- No significant weather impacts expected.

River Flooding

- Moderate to major flooding will continue into early April on the Mississippi River in **E AR/E LA**.
 - Impacts to shipping and industrial activities on the river, with numerous flooded roadways near the river.
 - All points have crested and many areas are forecast to drop into lower flood stages, but flooding will likely continue through April along the lower Mississippi River.
- A few rivers in portions of **AR/LA** will remain in minor flood stage with minimal impacts.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 29, 2019 – Apr 2, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Severe Storms	OK	NE LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	NE OK				
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather	NE NM				
	NM/WTX				
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

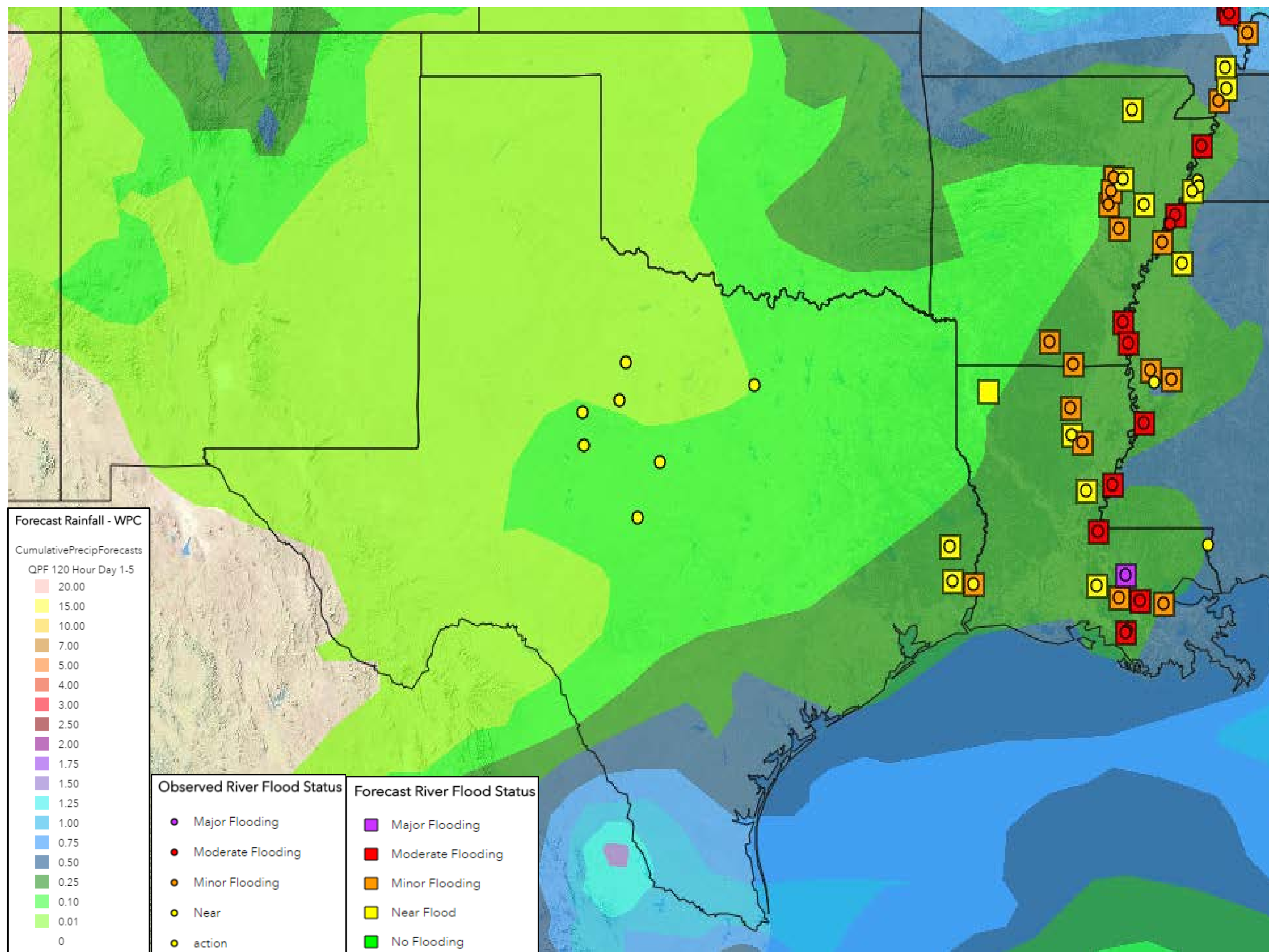
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Moderate to Major flooding will continue into April on the Mississippi River in E AR/E LA. Keep in mind that current forecasts do not account for any additional rainfall or any flooding from the upstream portions of the Mississippi River.

Arkansas

- MS River remains at moderate flood in many locations, with flooding of county roads/fields along the river and most land inside the levee protections.**

Louisiana

- MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected.**
- Several other points remain at moderate flood.**
- The Bonnet Carre Spillway is operating to reduce flow and maintain just under a 17.0ft stage at New Orleans. No significant impacts are noted.**

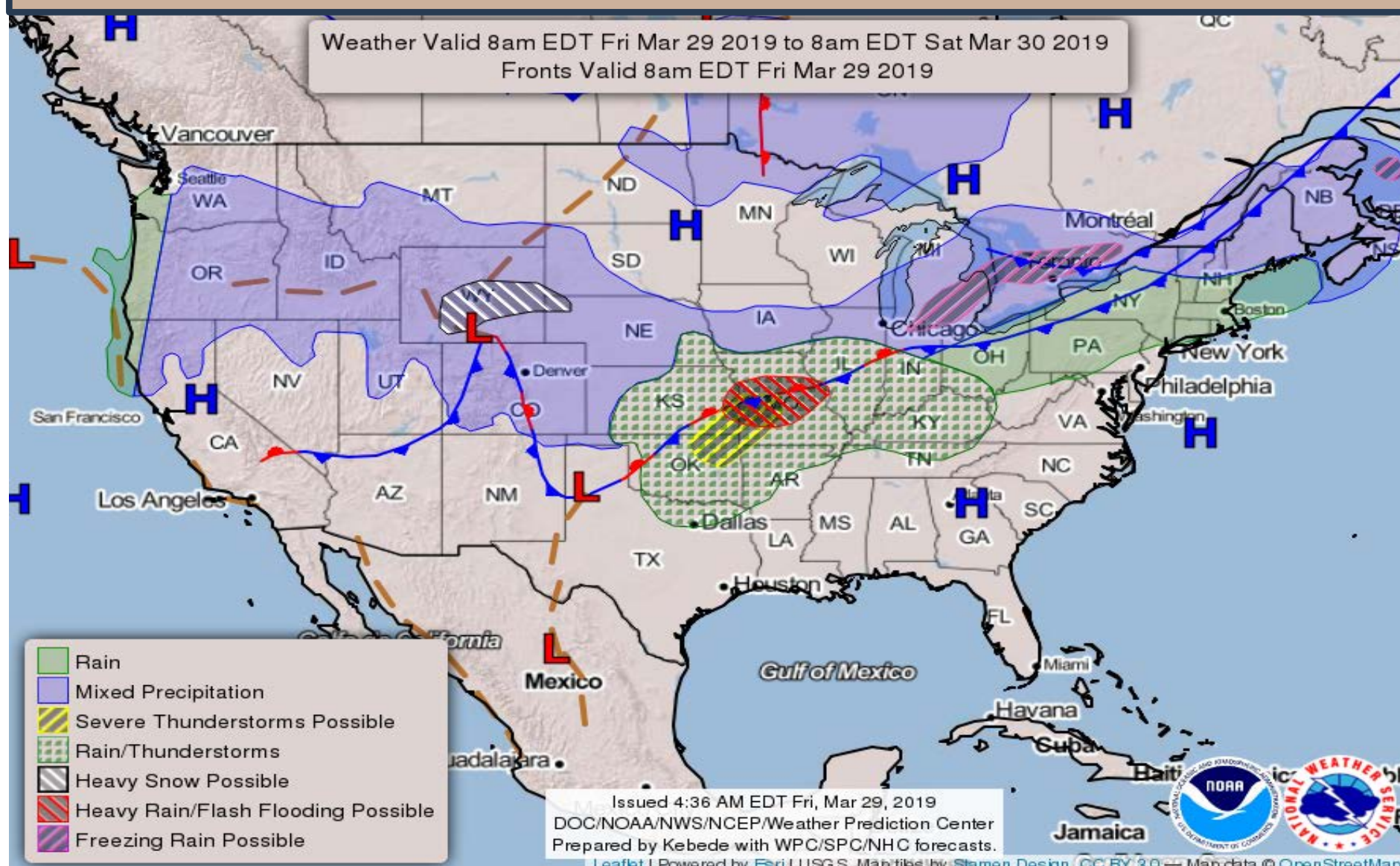
The White River (AR) and the Ouachita/Atchafalaya Rivers (LA) are in minor to moderate flood stage with minimal impacts.

Today's Weather

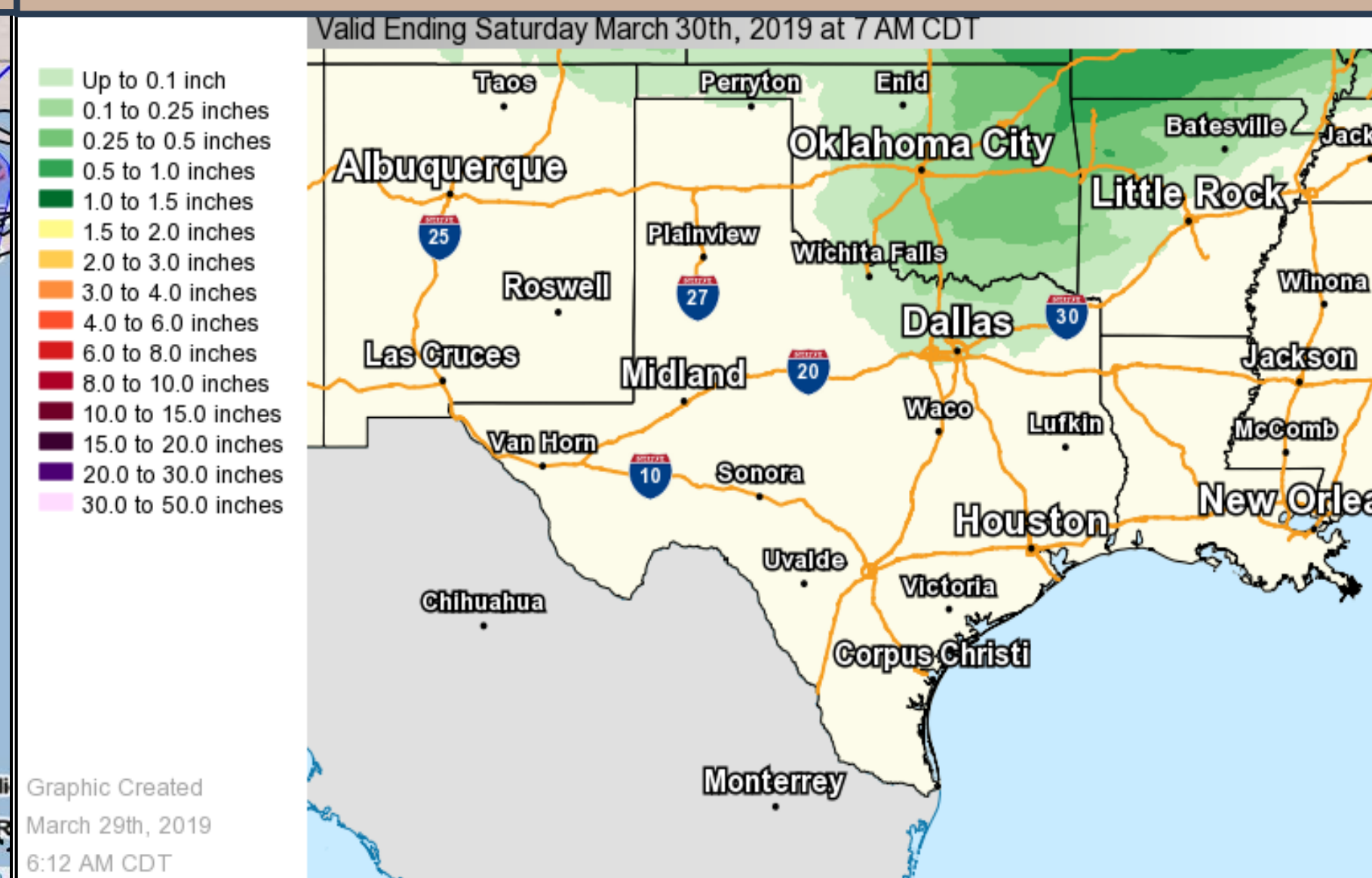


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Forecast Chart



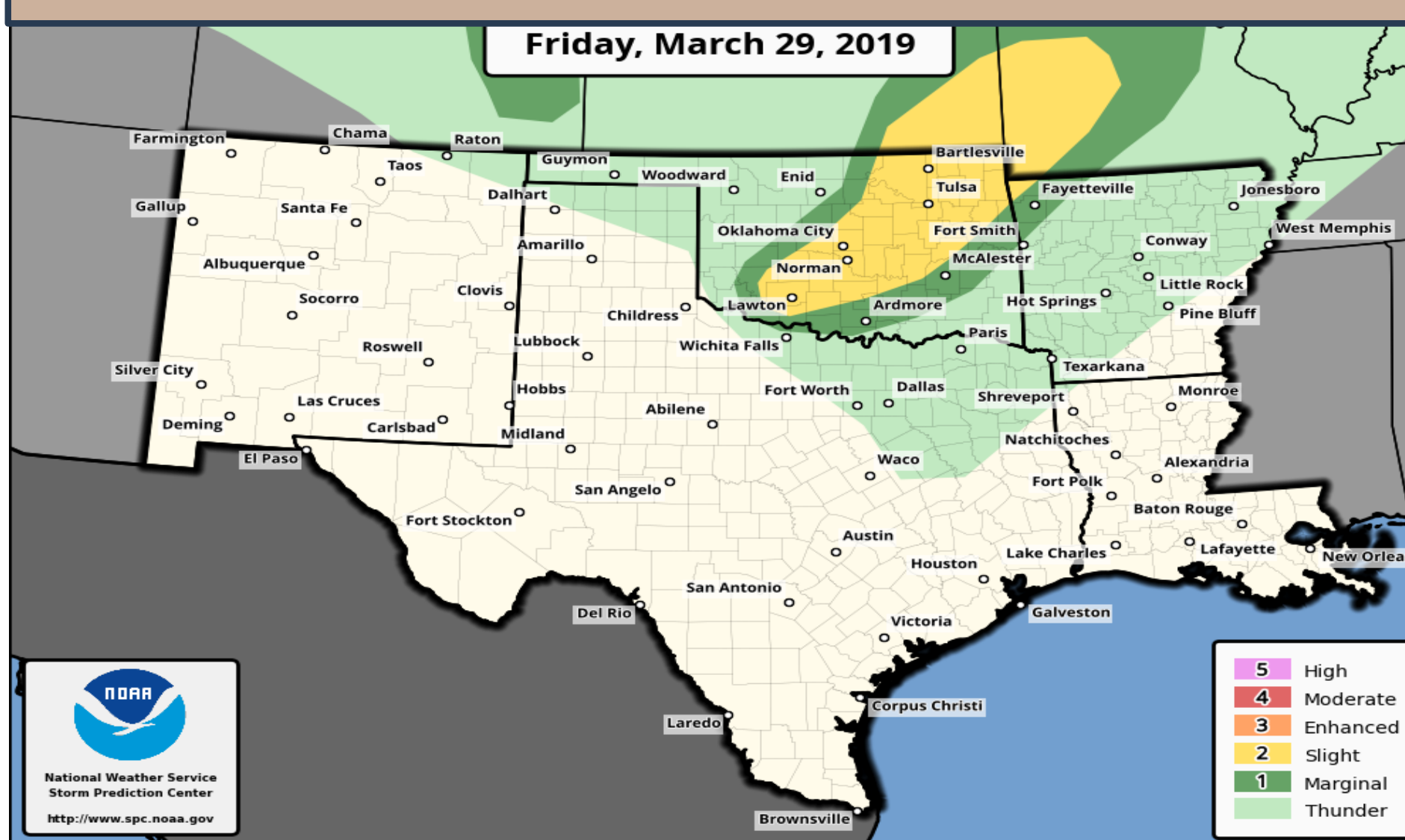
Forecast Rainfall



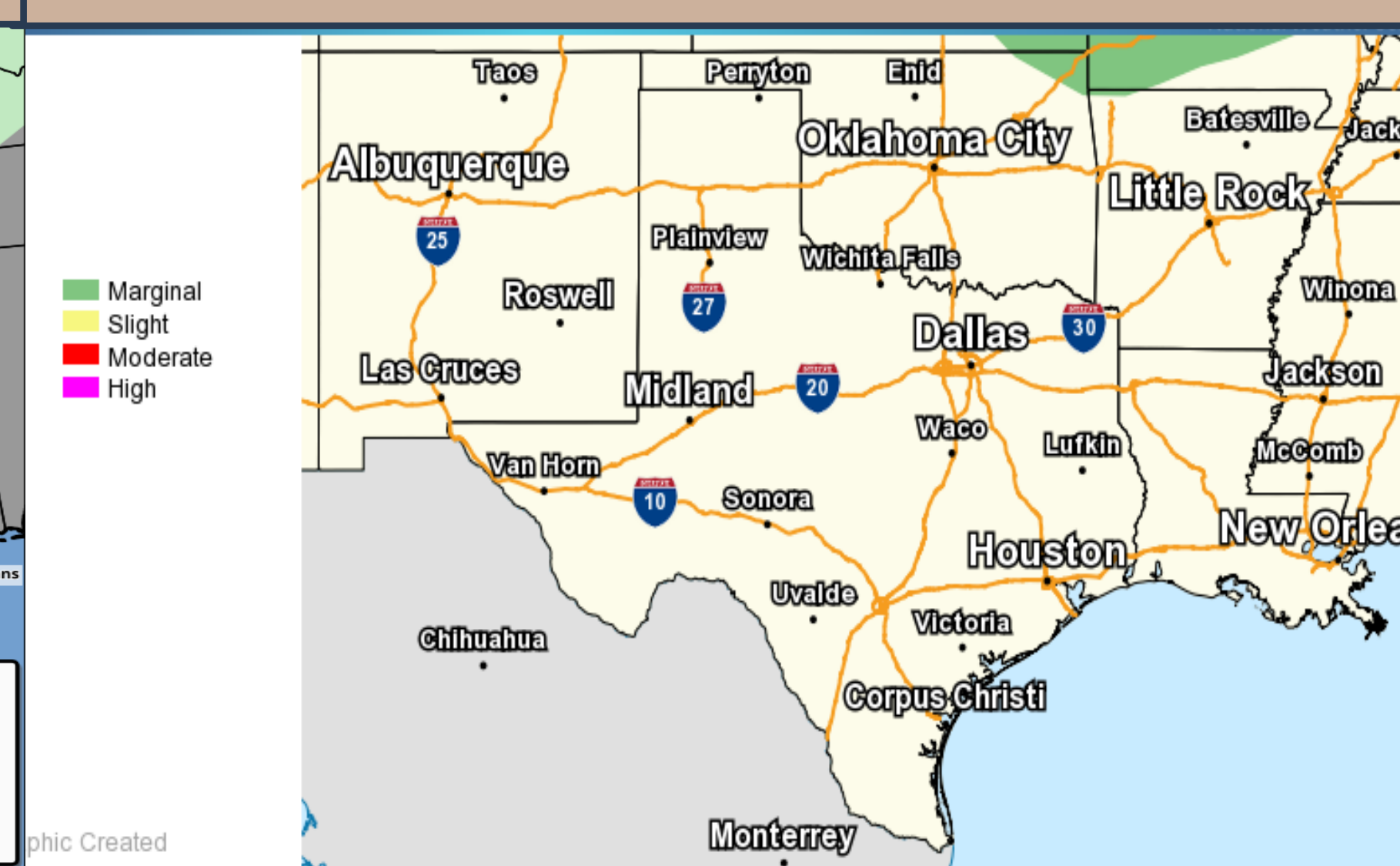
Slight risk area for severe thunderstorms across OK.

Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding is possible across NE OK.

Severe Weather Outlook



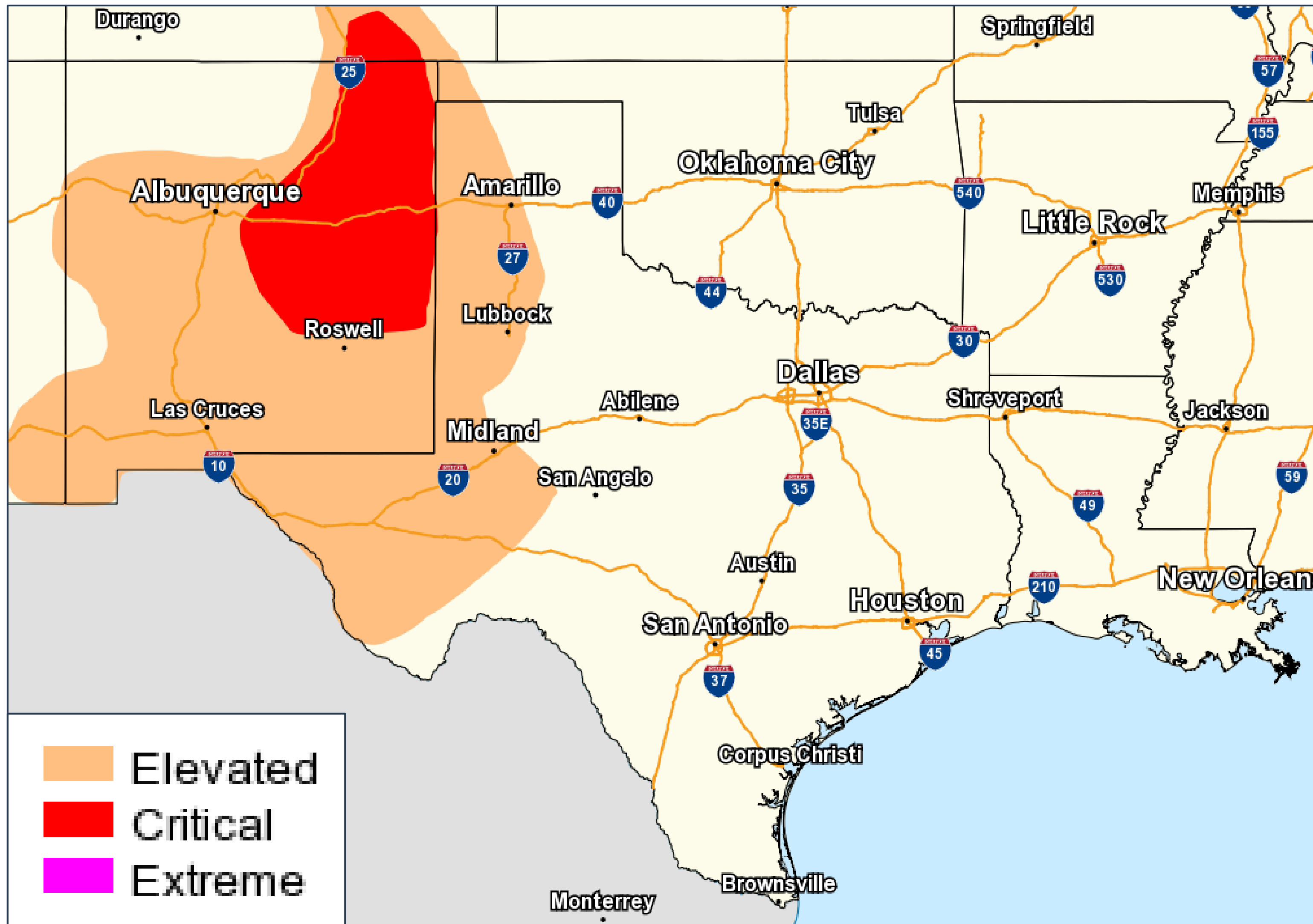
Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across much of NM into W TX and the TX Panhandle.

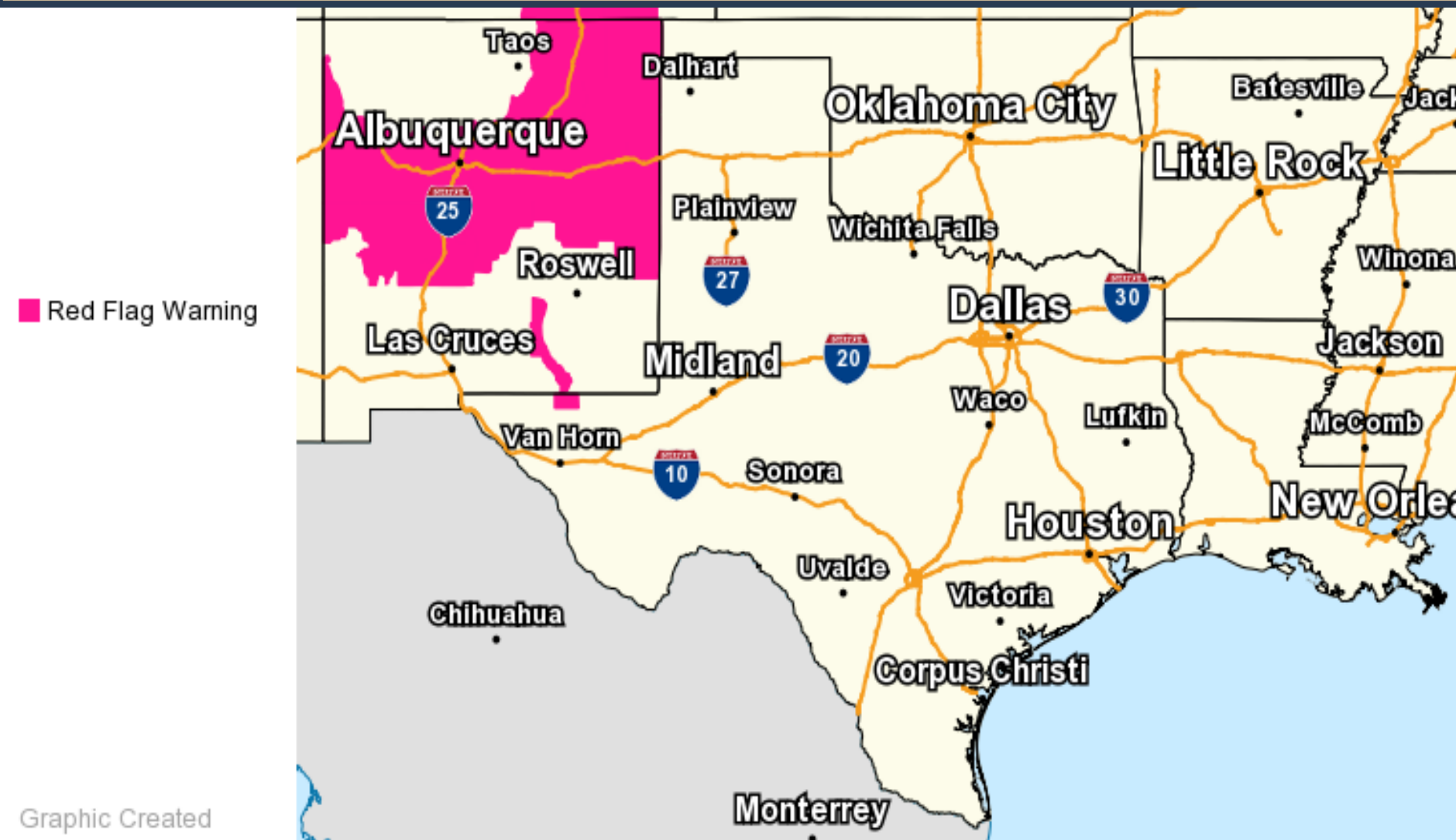
■ Elevated
■ Critical
■ Extreme

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Severe Weather & Flooding

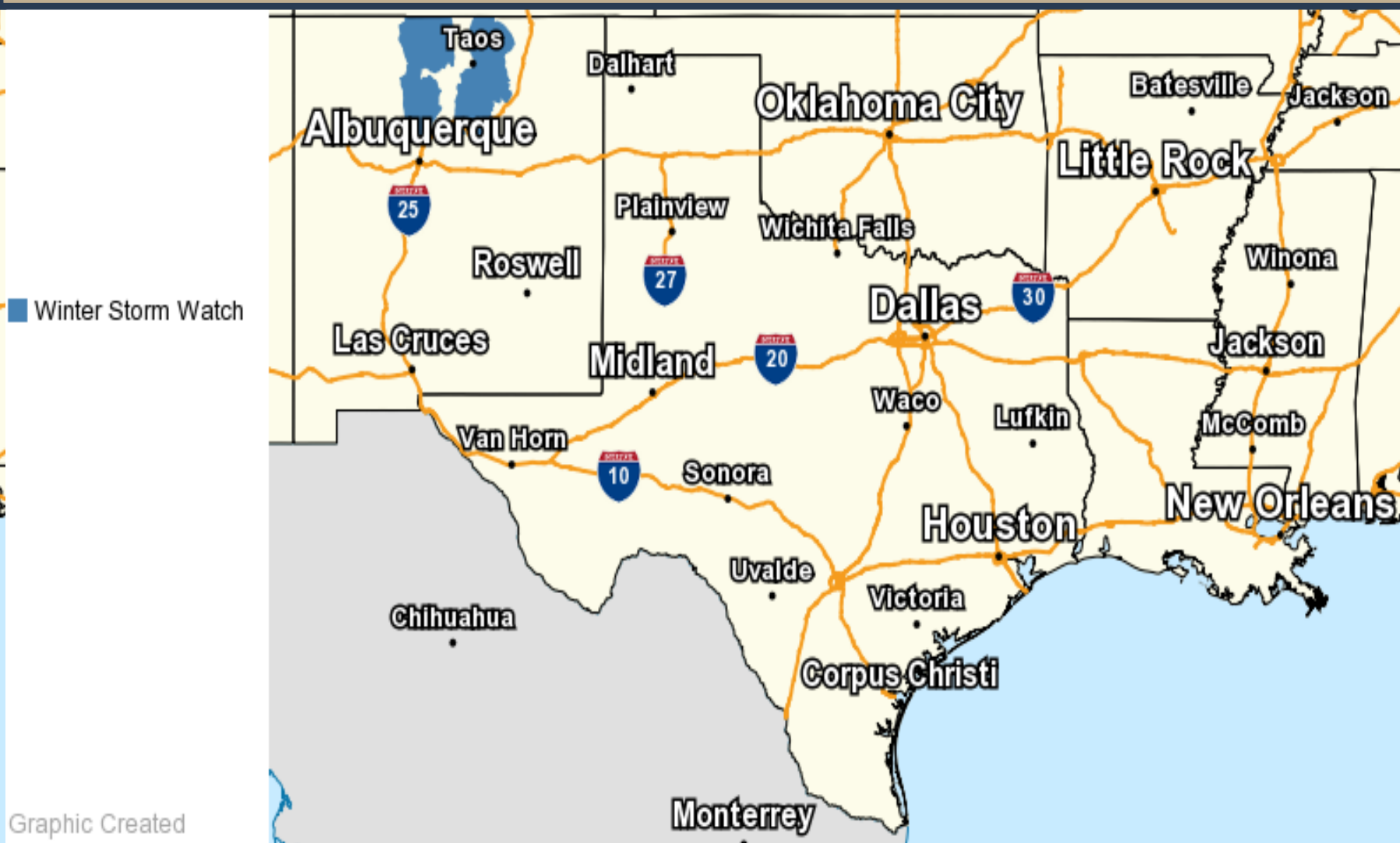


Red Flag Warnings across much of NM. Wind advisory in effect for E NM. Winter Storm Watch for the higher elevations in N NM.

Strong & Gusty Winds



Winter Weather



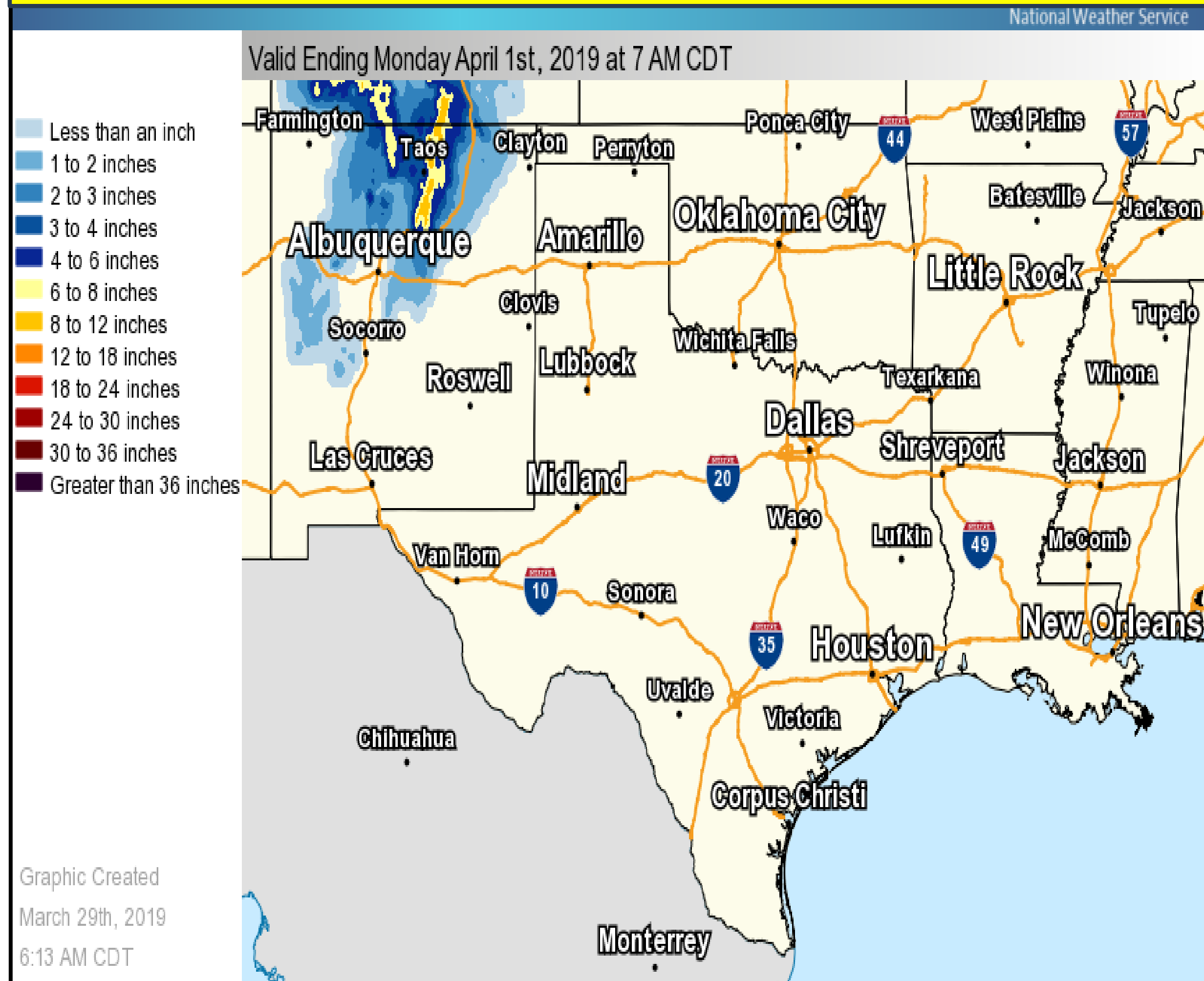
Winter Weather

Note: Snow and Ice Accumulations Days 1 through 3

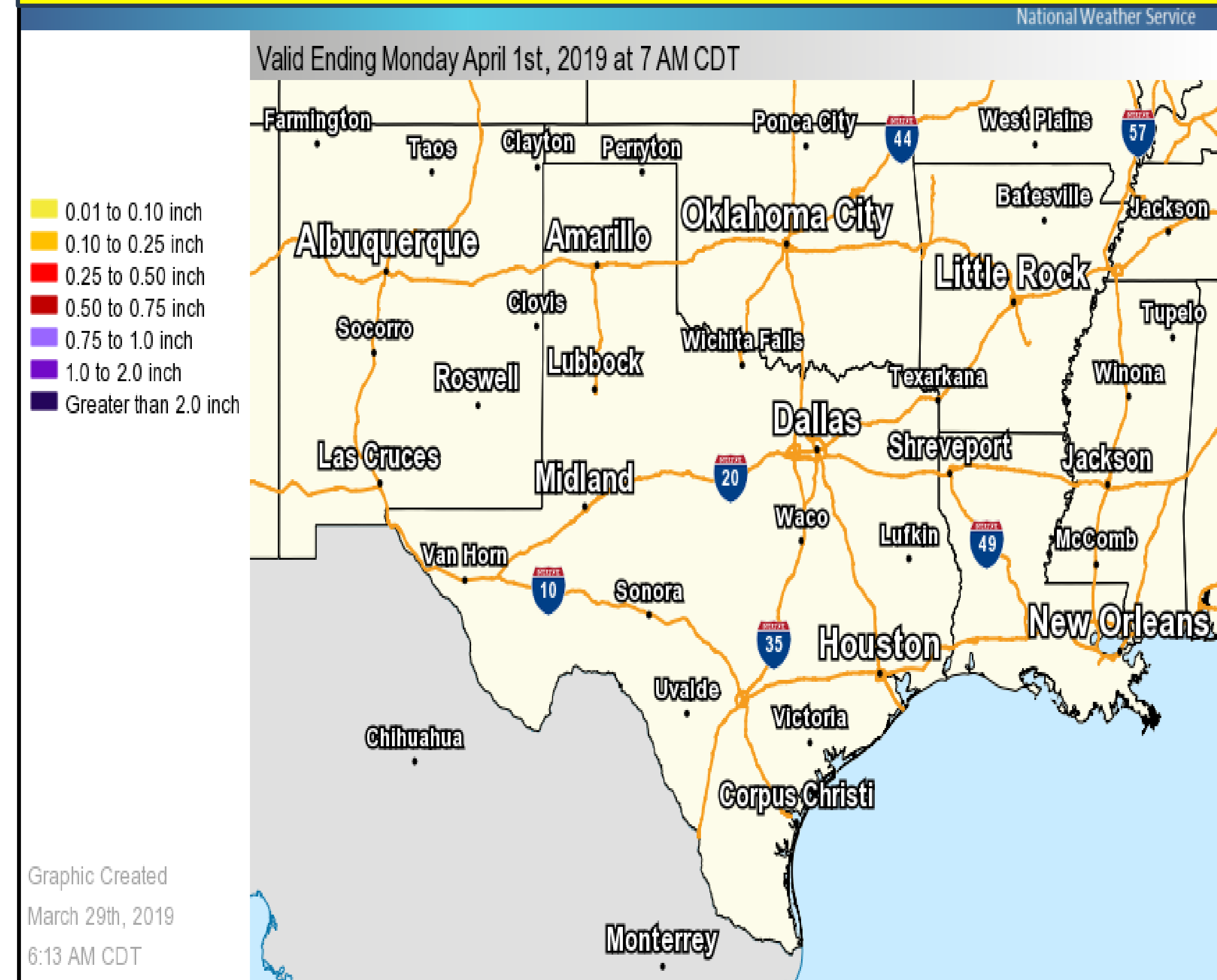


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Forecast Snowfall Amounts



Forecast Ice Amounts



Tomorrow's Weather

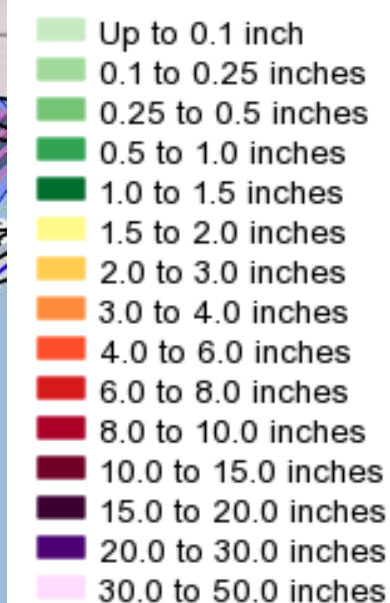
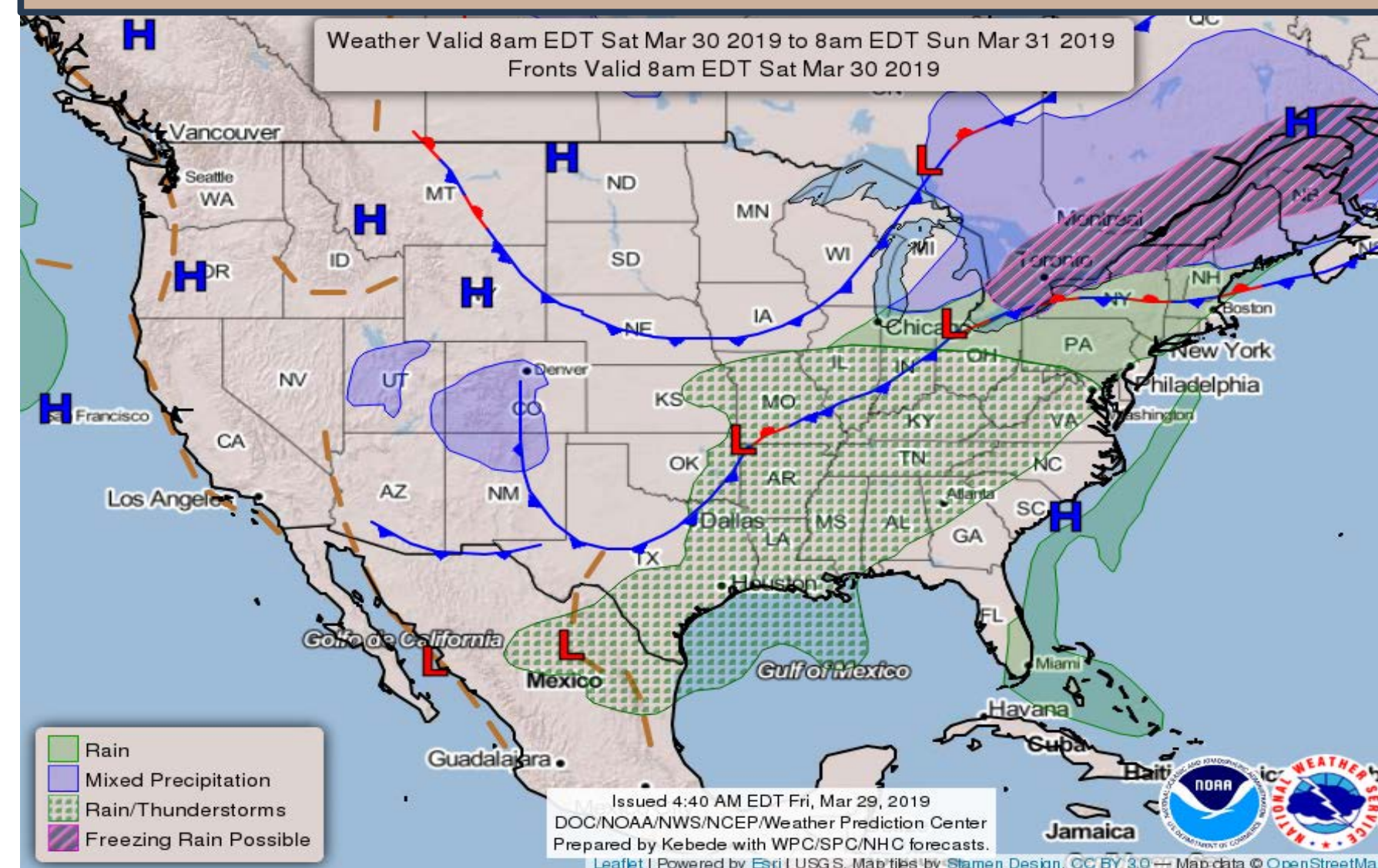


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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

**Marginal risk area for
strong/severe
thunderstorms across NE
LA.**

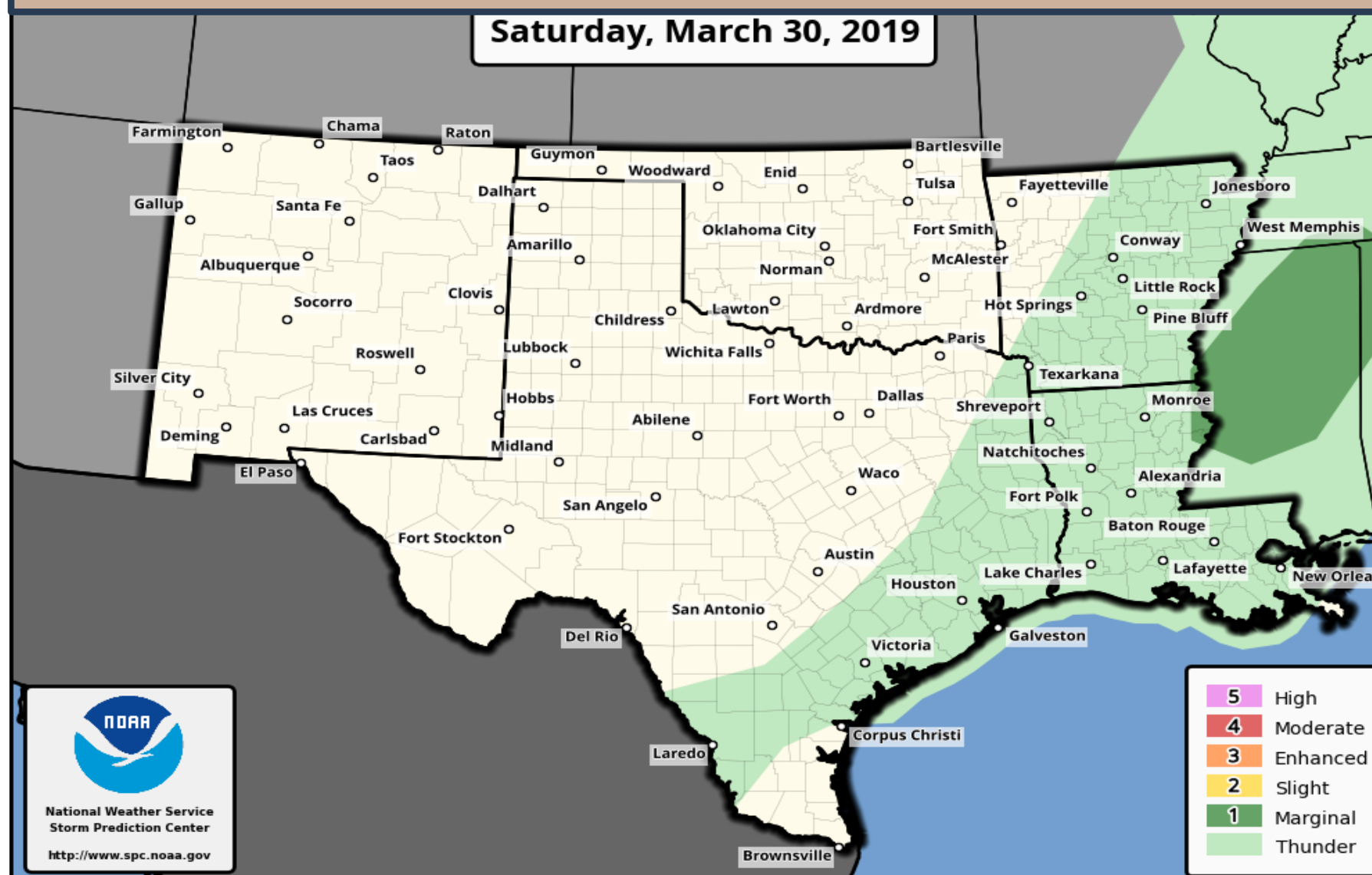


Graphic Created
March 29th, 2019
6:14 AM CDT



Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Graphic Created
March 29th, 2019
6:14 AM CDT



Sunday's Weather

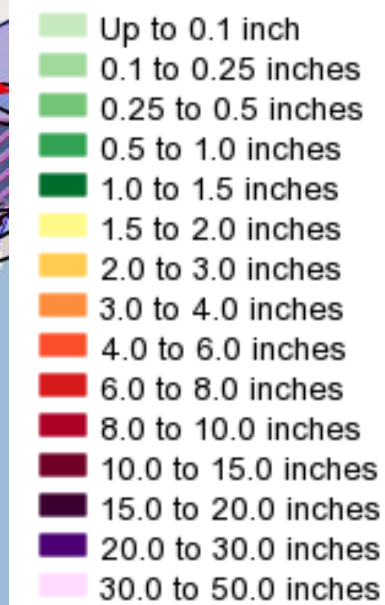
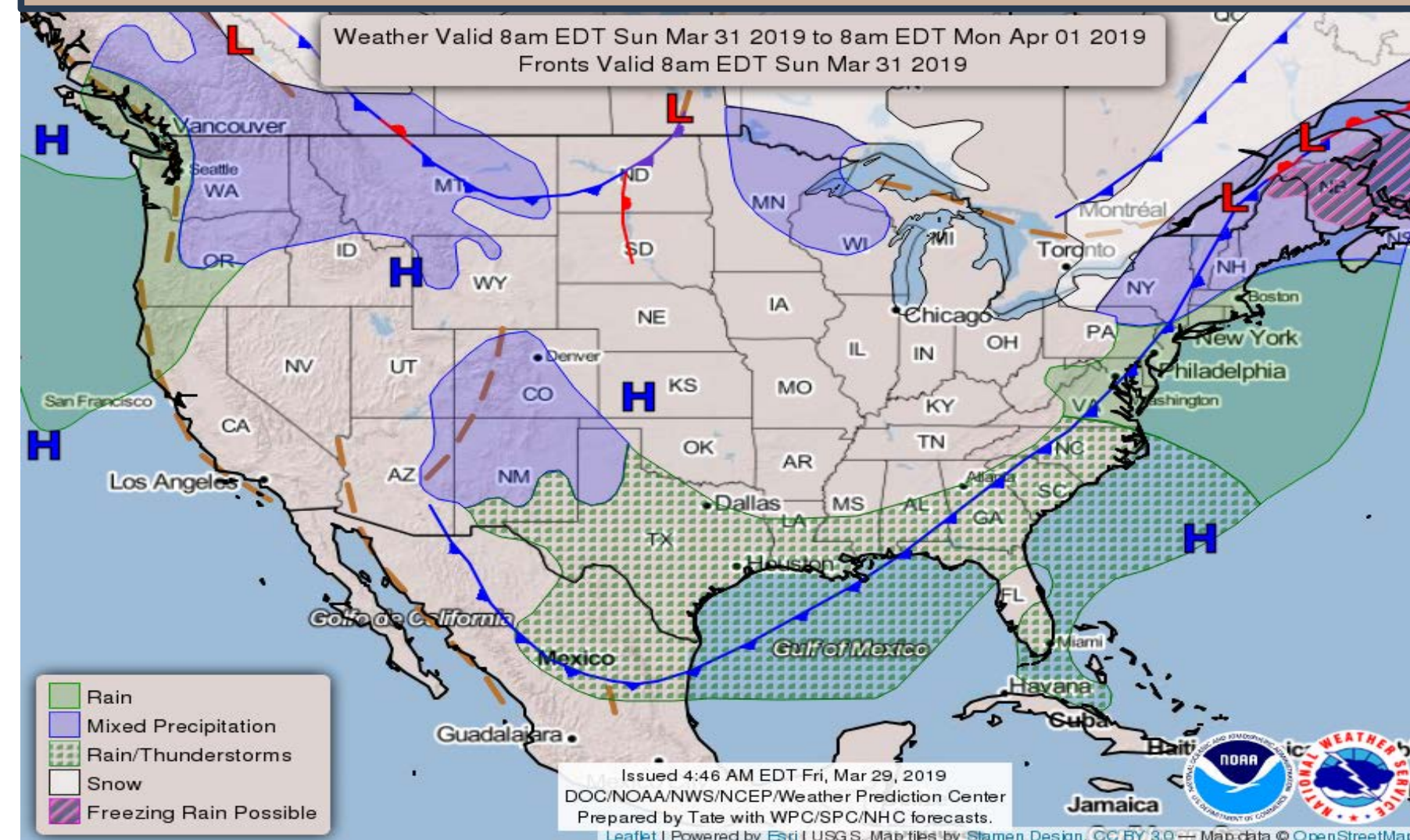


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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

No significant weather impacts expected.

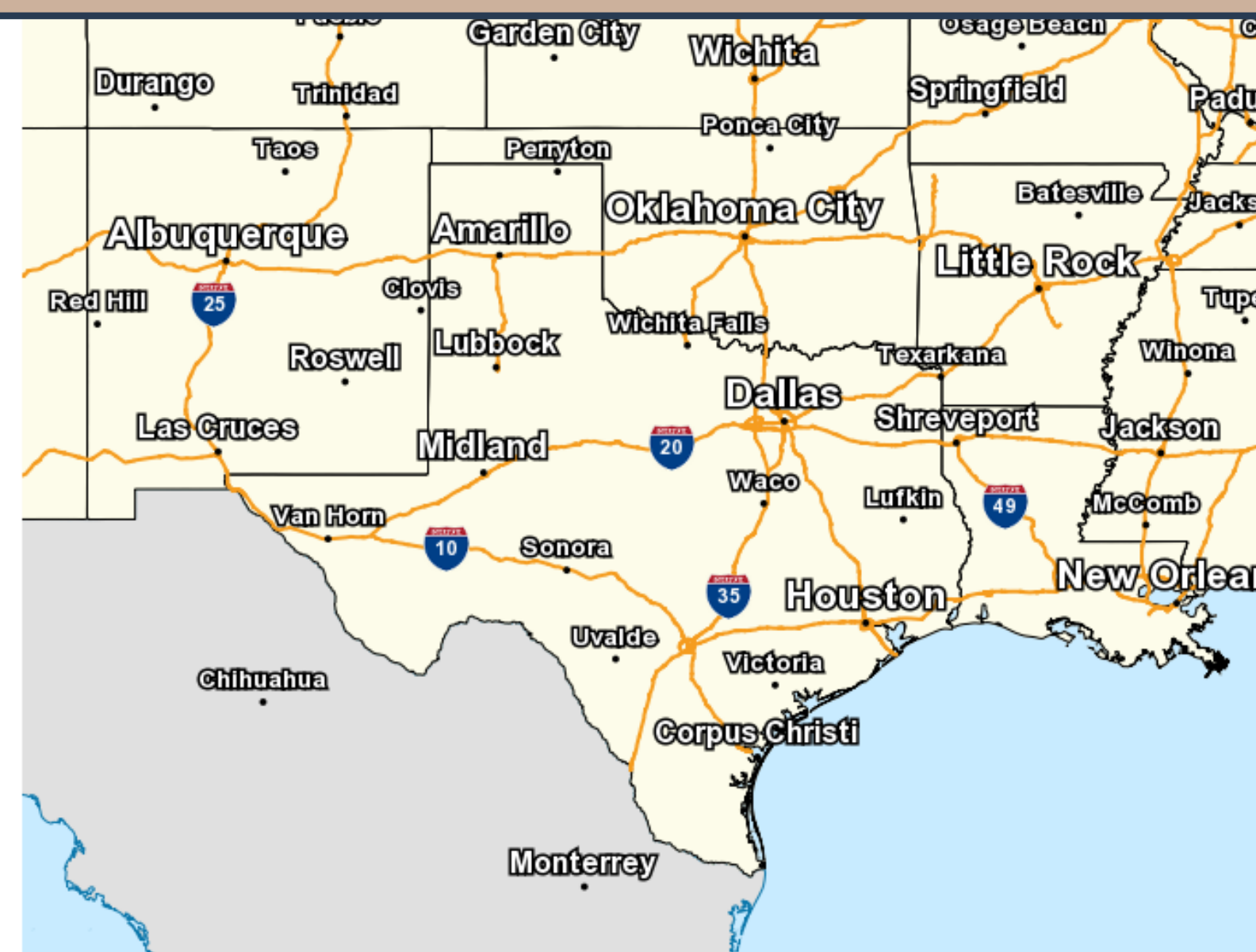
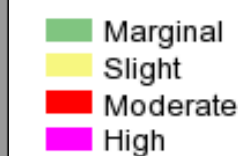
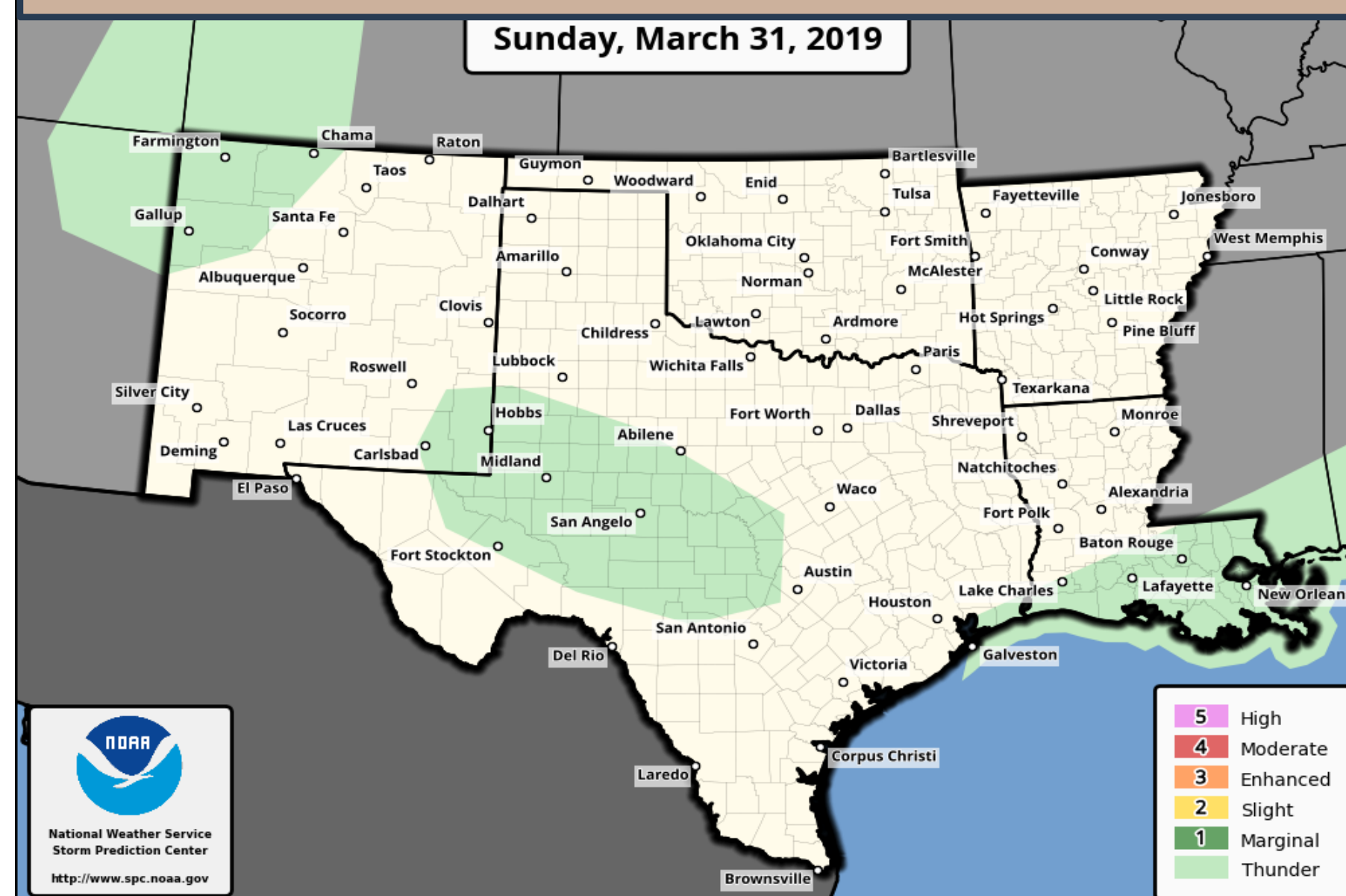


Graphic Created
March 29th, 2019



Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

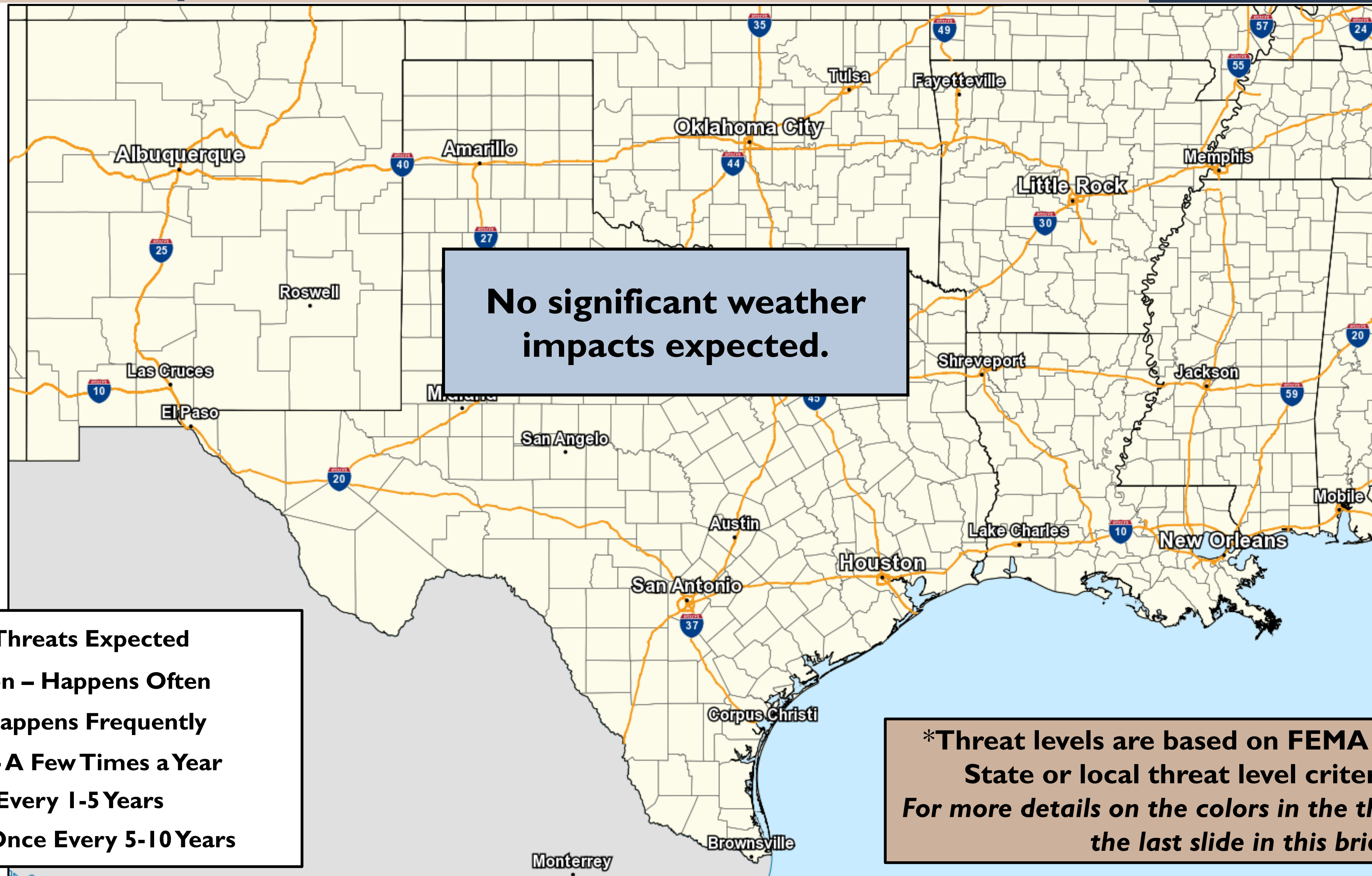


Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Monday - Tuesday



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-  No Weather Threats Expected
-  Very Common – Happens Often
-  Common – Happens Frequently
-  Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
-  Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
-  Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

***Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.***
*For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to
the last slide in this briefing.*

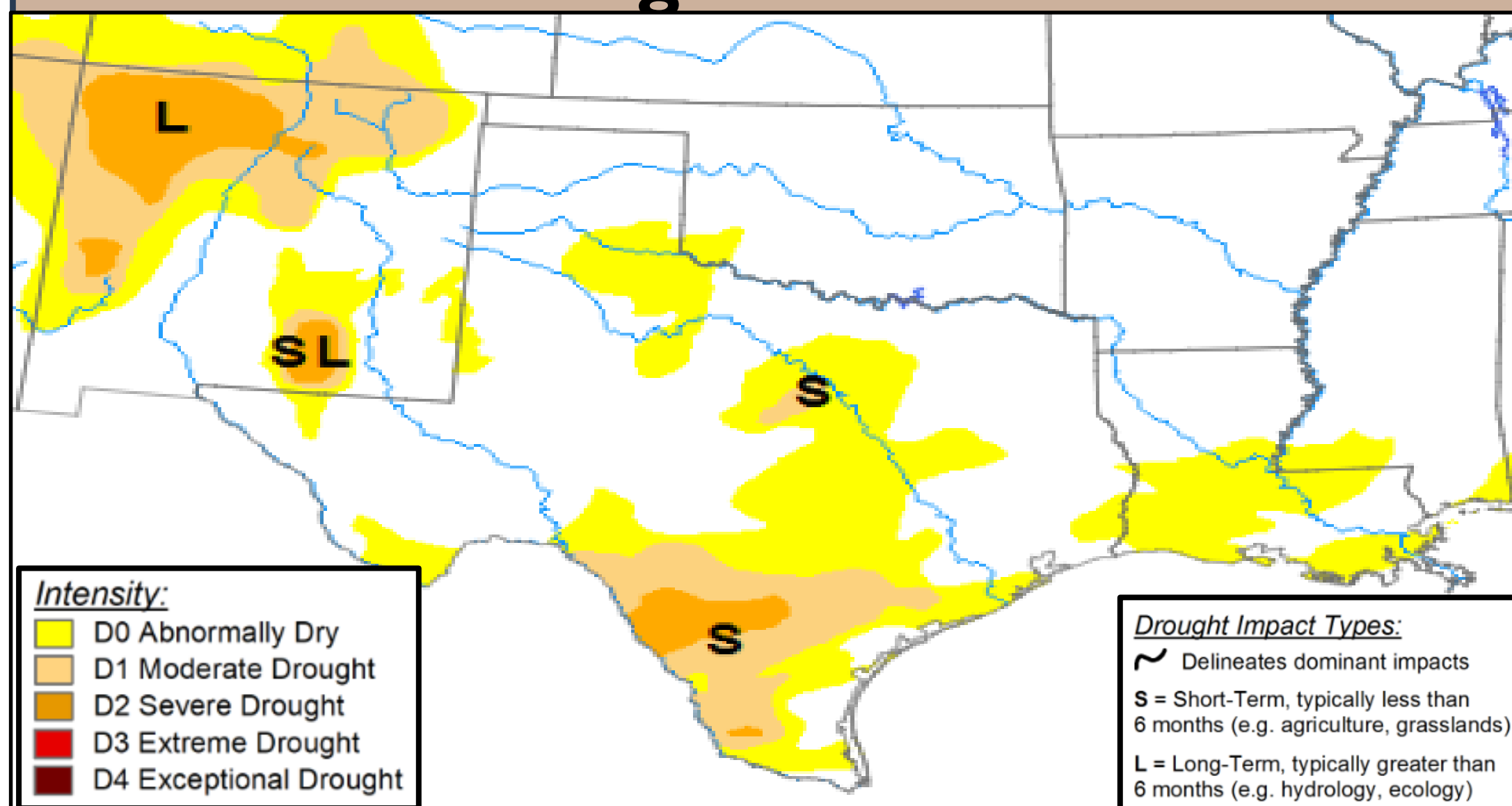
Drought Monitor (Released March 28, 2019)



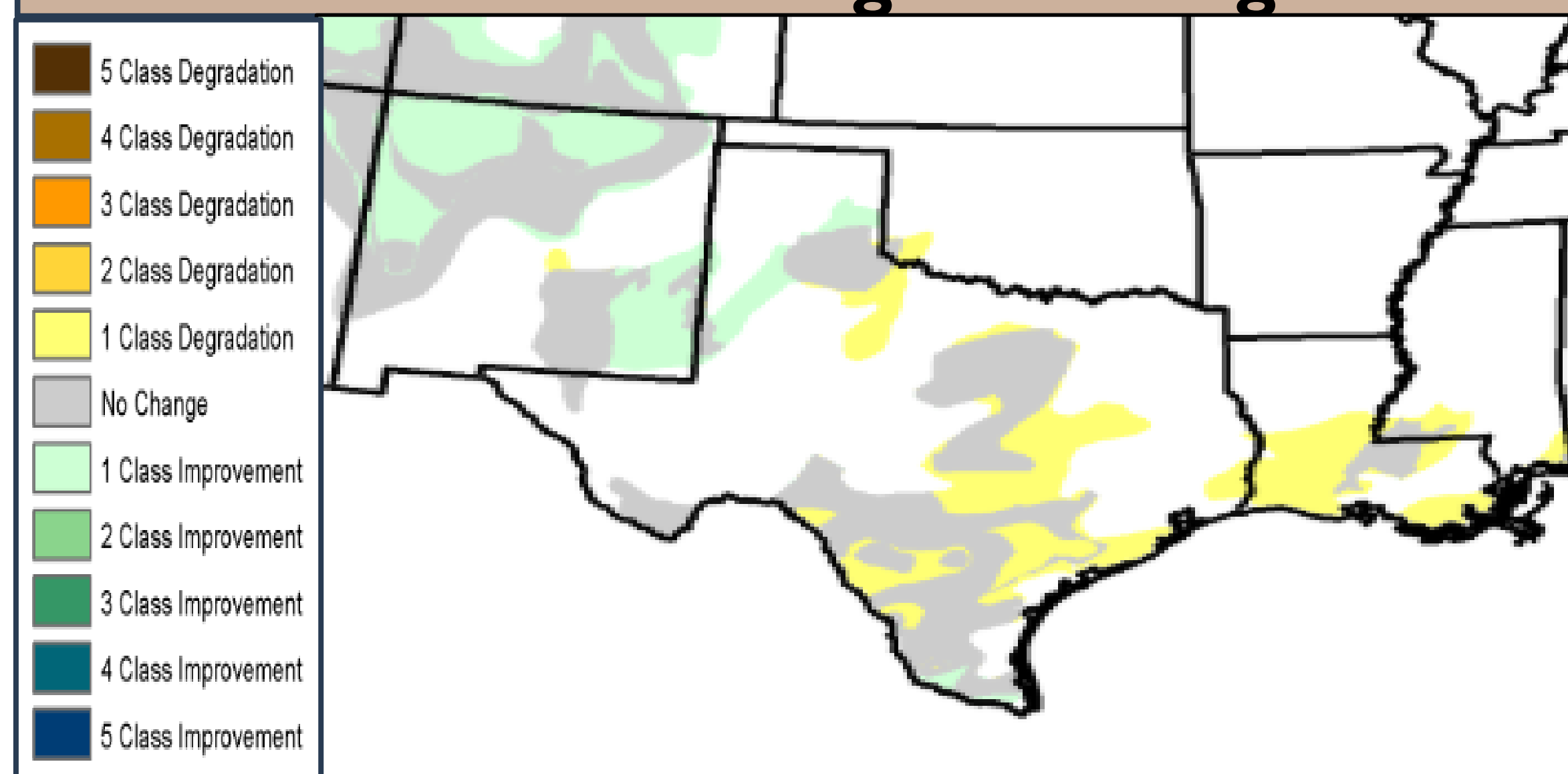
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Data valid as of 7am EST, Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Drought Monitor



One Week Change in Drought



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

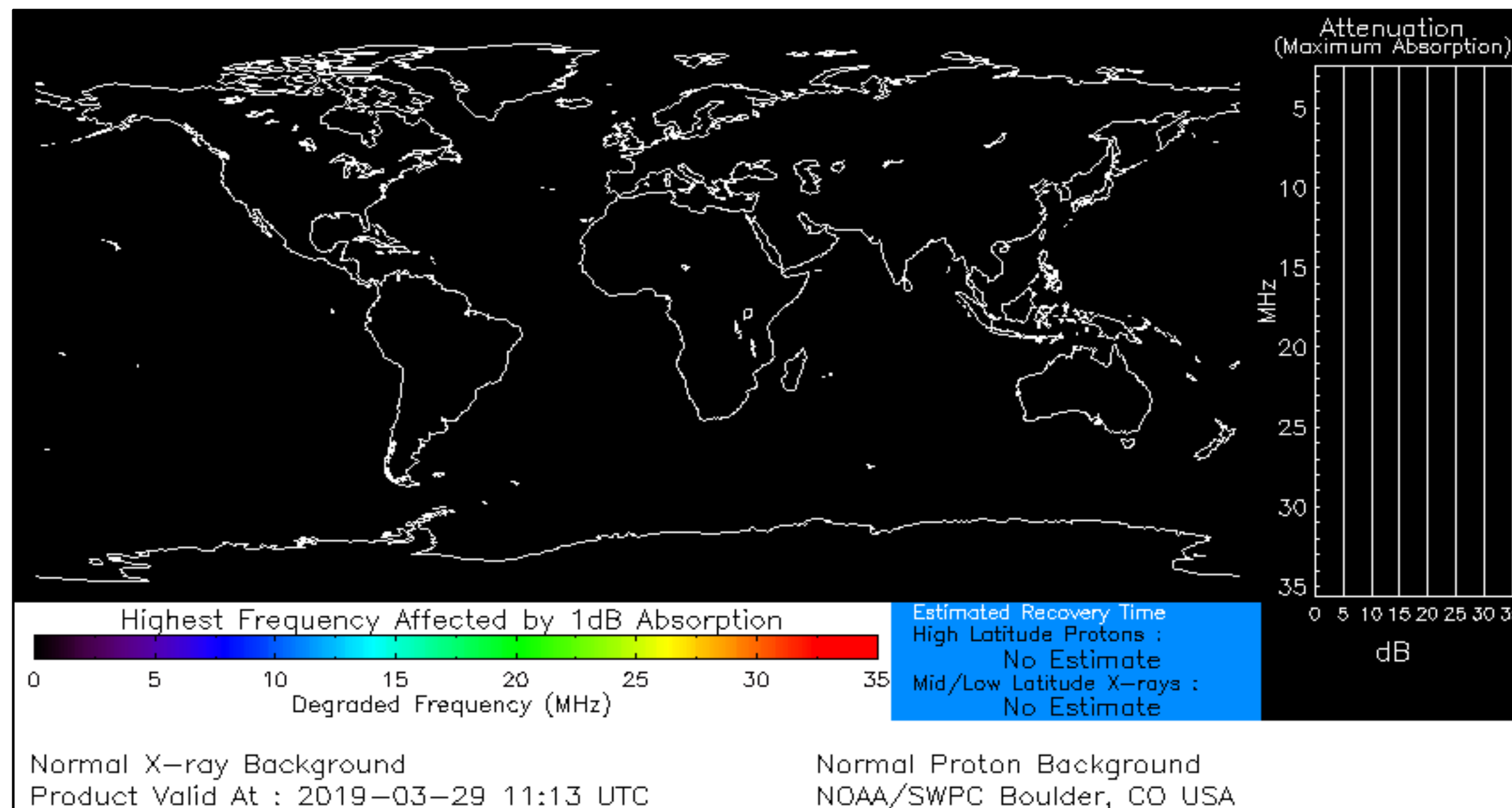
State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	8.10%	8.10%	19.89%	34.06%
Oklahoma	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	34.93%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.08%

Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



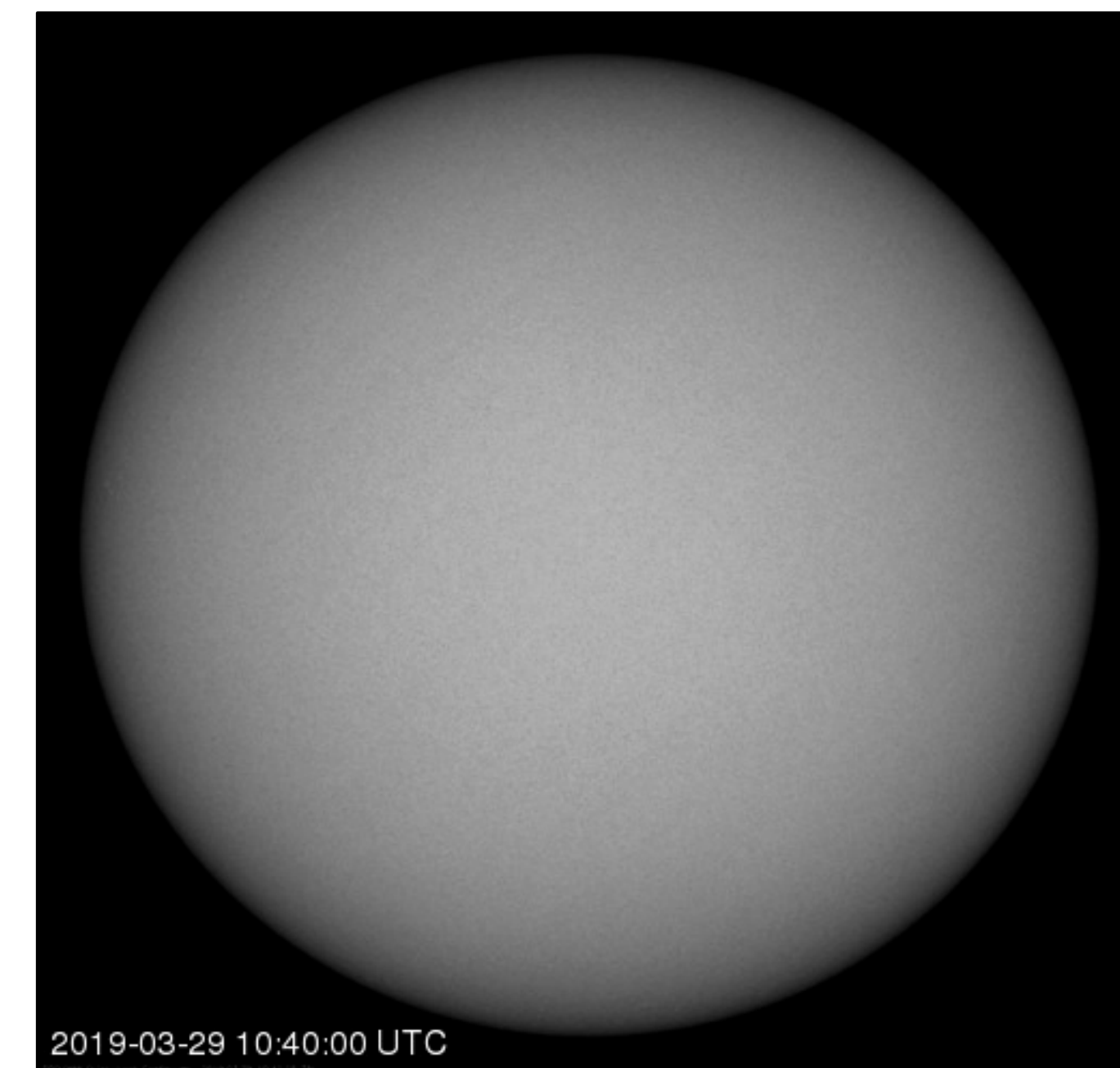
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	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





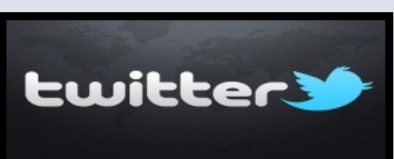
For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov